THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Consideration to convert BAJPE Airport to International Airport

282. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has announced recently at the time of inauguration of L.P.T. Station at Puttur of Dakshin Kannada of Karnataka that the foundation stone for international airport at BAJPE Mangalore will be laid in the month of February, 1997;

(b) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to convert present BAJPE Airport to international airport, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have sanctioned the airport; and

(d) if so, the total expenditure involved and the time by when the airport will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir. However, no specific time frame was mentioned.

(b) to (d) The details of the proposal for upgradation of Bajpe Mangalore airport for international operations are being worked out.

Violation of guidelines by private airline operators

283. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether private airline operators are violating operating guidelines as safety norms rampantly;

(b) if so, details of such violations noticed/ reported to the Government authorities operator-wise;

(c) details of action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) details of action-plan worked out that guidelines (updated) for operations are to be strictly followed by private airline operators and safety norms strictly followed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) Since 1996 there have been 7 serious violations of air safety norms by private airlines. Details are given in statement. (*see* below).

(d) steps are continuously taken to enhance the level of air safety, such as monitoring of flight recorders, conducting safety audit of operators, conducting safety seminars/meetings, carrying out spot checks on ground and in flight checks, implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of aircraft accidents and hazardous incidents, etc.

Statement

Details of violation of air safety norms by private airlines since 1996

Sl. No.	Operator	Date of violation	Details of violation	Action taken
1.	East West Airlines	2.1.1996	B-737 aircraft was involved in an incident at Bangalore wherein the aircraft landed with left main wheel off the rurway.	Pilot-in Command rating and Licence of Co-pilot was Licence of suspended.
2.	MESCO Airlines	6.1.1996	Ecureuil helicopter was flown without valid flight release and night flying was undertaken without ATC service.	Licence of the Captain suspended and action initiated against the operator.